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Central Intelligence Bulletin

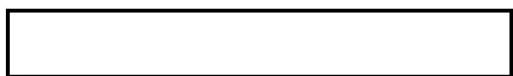
State Department review

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*Vietnam:

South Vietnam: The Thieu-Ky ticket will probably receive a plurality, but not a majority, of the vote in the key Mekong Delta area.

According to an assessment by US Embassy officials, the Hoa Hao, which constitute the most important single voting bloc in the area, as well as the less numerous, but still important, ethnic Cambodian minority, will probably give overwhelming support to the military slate.

The Catholic and Buddhist vote will probably split along regional and factional lines. For example, Catholics from North Vietnam will probably support Thieu, while the more numerous Southern Catholics seem to prefer Tran Van Huong. Moderate Buddhist followers of Thich Tam Chau support Thieu, while the militant faction backs the candidacy of either Huong or Phan Khac Suu.

In the over-all voting in the delta, Huong is expected to run second and Suu a poor third. Some 29 percent of the country's registered voters live in the delta region.

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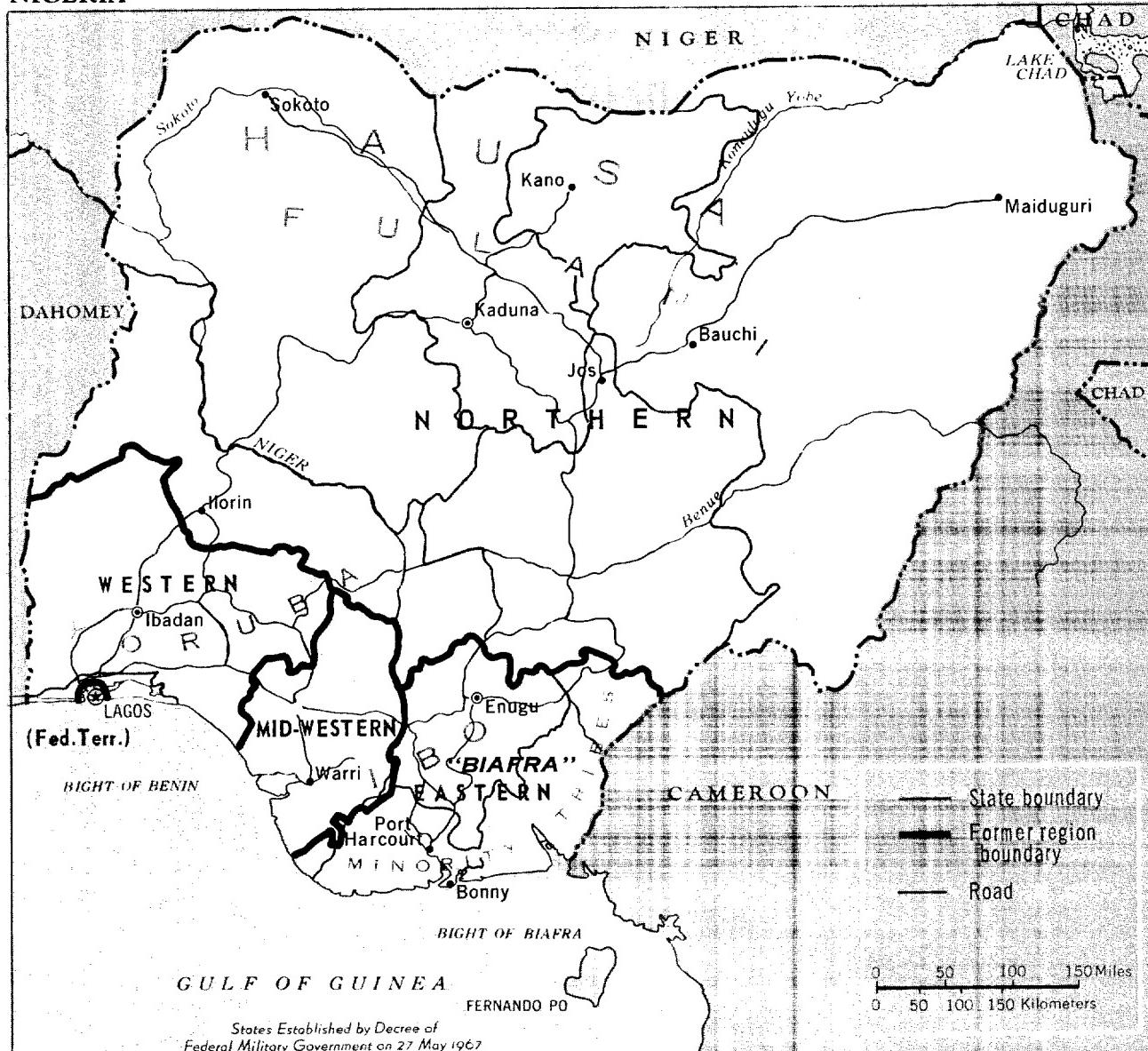
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NIGERIA



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29 Aug 67 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN Map

Nigeria: Northern military leaders may be making preparations to protect Northern interests in case the federation fragments further.

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The Northerners may well fear that the Nigerian federation will soon disintegrate. They are concerned that the Yorubas in the Western state may join secessionist Biafra and the Mid-West in a southern alliance against the Northern-dominated central government.

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The Northern administration, possibly anticipating that such a southern alliance would deny the North access to Nigeria's ports, is also trying to improve roads leading into Niger and Dahomey. The Northern economy would suffer seriously unless outlets could be found for Northern commodities.

Federal leader Gowon is aware of some of this free-wheeling by Northern officers. He probably does not yet see this as a serious problem, however, in view of his more immediate troubles.

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South Arabian Federation: The British now appear to be in the process of turning over the federation to the federal army.

The current chairman of the Federal Supreme Council--the cabinet of the federation--has asked the South Arabian Army to take over the administration of the federation, presumably with British blessing. The army is reported to have said it would decide today.

Efforts to form a representative successor government in South Arabia collapsed in the face of the basic conflict between upcountry sultanates and urban Aden and the terrorist campaigns of rival national groups. The most recent failure was an effort to engineer a meeting in Geneva between federation representatives, UN personnel, leaders of the Egyptian-backed Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen, and the anti-Cairo National Liberation Front.

The army has long wanted a green light to clean up terrorism in Aden, but the British have been reluctant to abandon the idea of a civilian government and sanction the more direct methods of the army. Once in power, the tribal-based army would probably cooperate with the largely tribal-based Liberation Front.

The British recently stepped up their timetable for complete withdrawal from January to December. An army take-over might enable them to pull out even earlier.

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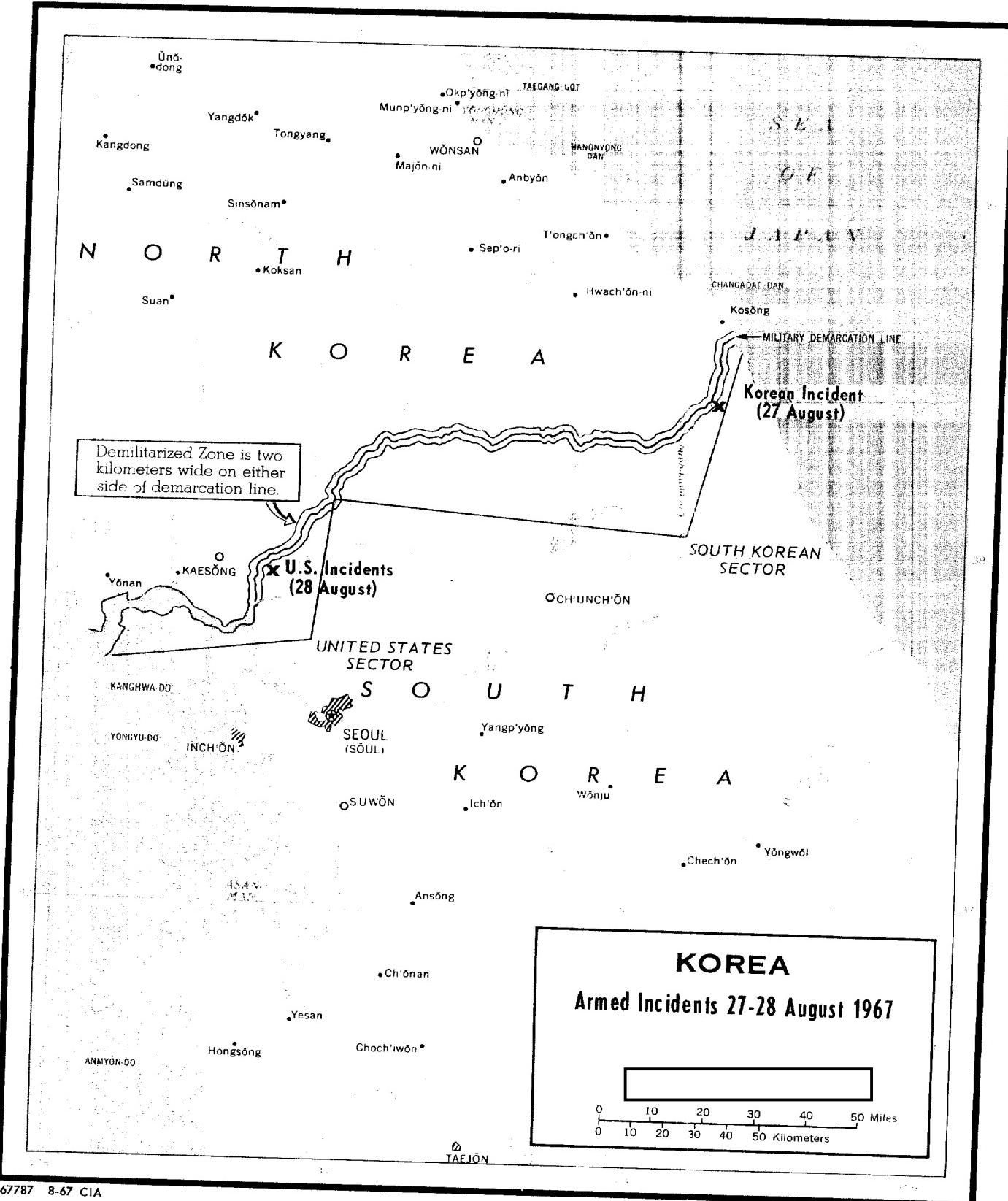
Arab States: Another Arab "summit" starts today in Khartoum, but prospects are dim for the adoption of a unified Arab stand.

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Arab foreign ministers, at their conference which ended on 27 August, could not agree on specific recommendations to submit to their heads of state. This failure to agree on any but the most general resolutions apparently has further irritated the more radical Arabs. President Boumedienne of Algeria will not attend the meeting, and the presence of Syria's President Atassi is uncertain.

The absence of these two leaders will make the summit less significant and the adoption of any meaningful resolutions all the more difficult. Those who are slated to attend include Nasir, President Arif of Iraq, King Husayn and, possibly, King Faysal of Saudi Arabia. The North African Arabs will be represented by lower ranking officials, such as Crown Prince Hassan of Libya.

Adoption of an oil embargo, or other economic sanctions aimed at the West, is likely to be put off once again. The Sudanese proposal for settling the Yemen stalemate will probably be discussed, but the chances of working out an early solution remain poor.

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Korea: North Korean forces are keeping the pressure up in the area south of the Demilitarized Zone.

They launched attacks on 28 August south of the western boundary of the zone, leaving one American dead and 14 wounded. In addition, there were 14 South Korean casualties. In this action, elements of a US engineer unit were attacked by an unknown number of North Koreans. A day earlier the North Koreans hit a South Korean Army checkpoint with grenades, killing six and wounding ten.

These North Korean actions may be part of a campaign to discourage South Korea from sending more troops to South Vietnam. North Korean official statements, however, do not suggest any intent to open a "second front."

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Venezuela: The urban terrorist organization of Douglas Bravo's pro-Castro group has been badly hurt by recent police actions.

In a series of raids last week, the Venezuelan police killed four top leaders of the Strategic Sabotage Command, which serves as the urban terrorist organization of the Armed Forces of Nation Liberation. Four of the urban terrorists were also arrested, including the commander in chief and a Cuban Army sergeant. The capture of the Cuban will add substance to Venezuela's case against Castro. The Venezuelan case is to be brought before the Conference of OAS Foreign Ministers scheduled for 22 September.

The Strategic Sabotage Command, organized by Bravo about a year ago, appears to have been responsible for most of the terrorism in Caracas since that time. Its ability to carry out further violence has been severely hampered by last week's police actions, particularly since those involved were from the top leadership. Nevertheless, most of its members, estimated to be about 30, remain at large and able to conduct sporadic acts of violence.

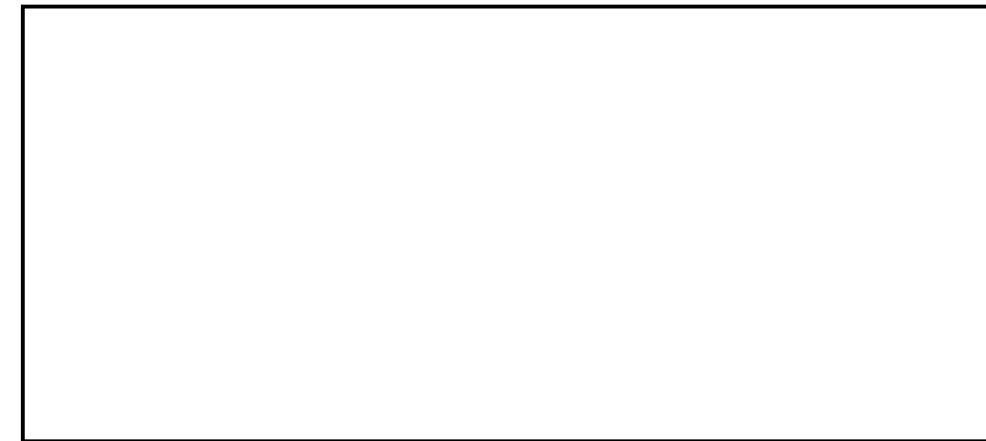
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NOTES

Algeria: The Algerian Government seems to be headed toward nationalizing both Esso and Mobil marketing and distribution facilities within Algeria. The brief nationalization decree reportedly leaves details to be worked out later. This would be the latest move in continuing Algerian efforts to harass Western, and particularly US, oil companies. Such a step would place further obstacles in the way of an early resumption of US-Algerian relations, broken by Algeria during the Arab-Israeli conflict.

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Cuba:

[redacted] a surface-to-air missile site in a Havana suburb, identified in earlier photography as an SA-3 type, has recently been changed and now looks like an SA-2 site. The four revetments seen in the earlier photographs have been altered, and two new SA-2-type drive-through revetments have been built. This would bring to 12 the number of SA-2 sites in the Havana area. No other possible SA-3 installations have been noted in Cuba.

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Peru: President Belaunde seems in no hurry to resolve the stalemated dispute with opposition congressional leaders. Although opposition leaders claim to have convinced one of their number to resign his disputed post of Senate president, the government is unlikely to drop its other conditions for ending its boycott of Congress. Military leaders continue to keep a watchful eye on the stalemate, but there is no evidence that they deem the situation serious enough to intervene.

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